



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION
DELAWARE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

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1463 CHESTNUT GROVE ROAD
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting

November 21, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Alan Robinson, Jr., Chairman
Ron Marvel, Vice Chairman
David J. Roberts
Tom DiCristofaro
Lynn Truitt
Marvin C. Sharp
Ted Walius

ALSO PRESENT

Patricia Davis, Deputy Attorney General
Patrick Matthews M.D., BLS Medical Director
Sherry Lambertson, Executive Specialist
David J. Truax, Investigator/Compliance Officer
Grover P. Ingle, State Fire Marshal
Robert P. Newnam, Director, State Fire School

GUESTS

Warren Jones, DVFA
Anthony Spiezio, DTI
Bill Betts, DVFA
Elmer Steele, DVFA
Richard Perillo, DVFA
Jay Jones, DVFA
Jason Capps, DSEMSA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17, 2017 COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, and seconded by Commissioner Truitt that the minutes of the October 17, 2017 Commission meeting be approved. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Personnel Items

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that Thomas P. Looney has accepted the position of Deputy Fire Marshal I in New Castle County.

Desiree B. McCall has been hired for the Fire Protection Specialist I position in Sussex County beginning on January 8, 2018 Felicia A. Staker has been hired for the Administrative Specials I position in New Castle County beginning on December 11, 2017.

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that he did not post the vacant Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Coordinator position yet. He is taking the time to look at the duties and responsibilities of the position before proceeding.

Assistant State Fire Marshal Michael G. Chionchio has received a service award for 25 years of state service. It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to recognize Assistant State Fire Marshal Chionchio for his years of service. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Fire Fatalities

November 7, 2017 at approximately 8:30 AM Five Points Fire Co. was alerted to a residential structure fire in the unit block of Norway Avenue, Richardson Park, Wilmington, DE. On arrival there was heavy smoke and fire showing. Fire Fighters removed three victims from the structure and medical care was provided at the scene by ALS & BLS personnel prior to transport to Christiana Hospital. One victim passed away at the hospital, one victim passed away the following day at Crozier Burn Hospital. The third victim remains in critical condition with non-life threatening injuries.

The Major Incident Response Team from the Office of the State Fire Marshal investigated the scene to determine the origin and cause of the fire. There were no working smoke alarms in the structure. This is the ninth fire fatality of the year. Of the nine fire fatalities in 2017, only one had a working smoke alarm.

FY 2019 Public Budget Hearing

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the FY 2019 Public Budget Hearing went well. The agency is requesting funds for the ongoing licensing of the software programs and for computer replacement. There were no members of the public in attendance.

DTI Update

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that his agency continues to work with DTI on the program that is being developed for the agency. Program testing has taken place, but unfortunately it didn't go as anticipated. Both DTI and the agency need to come together to better understand how the agency works and what they are looking for. Fire Marshal Ingle has requested that the team leaders meet once again to make sure that this one program that will take care of three agency functions is a usable product.

Dover Building/Grounds Project Update

Fire Marshal Ingle reported that the Dover grounds project continues to move forward. The cooling tower has been replaced and will be completed by November 30th.

Kidde Fire Extinguisher Recall

Fire Marshal Ingle discussed a recall from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Kidde has recalled fire extinguisher with plastic handles due to failure to discharge and nozzle detachment. One death has been reported.

Consumer Contact: Kidde toll-free at 855-271-0773 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ET Saturday and Sunday, or online at www.kidde.com and click on “Product Safety Recall” for more information.

DFIRS Incidents Received

TOTAL STATE PARTICIPATION IN COMPLIANCE			
72 %			
DELINQUENT DEPARTMENTS			
New Castle County			
Cranston Heights		April – July, September	
Five Points		April – June, August - September	
Holloway Terrace		August - September	
Townsend		April – September	
Port Penn		September	
Kent County			
Bowers		January – March, May – September	
Cheswold		January – June, August - September	
Dover		August - September	
Hartly		August - September	
Little Creek		July – September	
Magnolia		July – September	
South Bowers		May - September	
Sussex County			
Bridgeville		September	
Ellendale		March – September	
Greenwood		September	
Laurel		September	
Lewes		September	
OVERDUE REPORTS BY DAYS			
30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days
5	3	2	7

Source: DFIRS Incidents received as of 11/06/17.

REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Director

- NFPA 610 committee (Emergency and Safety Operations at Motorsports Venues) – Wilson
- Student Injuries – SFFS, Search and Rescue Evolutions
 - Panic Attack – picked-up (17 year old)
 - Vomiting – transported to KCH (19 year old)
 - Heat Exhaustion – refused treatment (19 year old)
- Student Injury – Confined Space Rescue – cut elbow – treated returned to class
- Student Incident was reported in an EMT class. Delaware State Police were notified. The student was suspended from the class and is in the process of appealing the decision. Director Newnam will keep the Commission apprised.
- Junior Fire Camp – 7 attendees, 4 Non-Affiliated attended Basic F.F. Skills this fall.
- EMT Refreshers – protocols, student failing twice (11-45) – full course requirement.
- Public Budget Hearing – November 7, – Senate Chambers, Legislative Hall

Staff Activities

- Pro Board Site Visit, Blaine, MN – 11/6 – Senior Instructor Lowe
- ALLERT Training (Active Shooter) Nov. 5-8, Senior Instructor Dempsey
- Delaware Chemical Safety, Security & Transportation Workshop, 11-1 – Display – Senior Instructor Stephens
- Converting the EMT Protocols to a PDF flip book format – Senior Instructor Miller

Programs/Courses

Figures in red are reference to last year's comparison of class attendance.

- Current Month
 - Legislative Day - Sussex Division – 24 attendees, Lowe
 - Confined Space Rescue – 20 students (9)
 - Brigade – Leadership – cancelled, second year
 - Firefighting Foam – 6 students – cancelled (3 cancelled)
 - Elevator Rescue – 21 students
 - EVO – Kent weekend - 36 students (13)
 - EVO – New Castle – evening – 13 students (19)
 - Fire Officer I – blended learning – 24 students
 - Rope Rescue – 29 students

Programs/Courses cont.

- Engine and Truck Company – 3 students – cancelled
 - Custodial Fire Safety – 75 students (53)
- Firefighter Recruit Class – New Castle and Sussex is advertised beginning February 8, 2018
- Divisions Usage
 - New Castle – 15 classes scheduled (12)
 - Kent – 4 classes scheduled (3)
 - Sussex – 5 classes scheduled (5)

EMS

- **Current Month**
 - CEU programs – 7 scheduled
 - EMT-Refresher – NCD 16 students – KCD 16 students – SCD 13 students
 - Protocols – student failure twice – requires attending full protocol class
 - Healthcare Provider – Kent Division – 1 student – cancelled
 - Escaping Violent Encounters – 2 students - cancelled

Public Education and Injury Prevention - Activity Report

- **Current Month**
 - Fire Safety Programs – 1 scheduled (5)
 - DSFS Tours – 2 scheduled (1)
 - Fire Safety Displays - 1 scheduled (1)
 - Injury Prevention Programs – 12 scheduled (3)
 - Injury Prevention Events – 1 scheduled
- School – Injury Prevention September 16 through November 18th, 2017
 - 81 Programs

Maintenance – Building and Grounds

- Asbestos abatement necessary in some hallways and mechanical area – evenings
- HVAC project scheduled January 2017 to September 2019

Financial

- Past Due Billings
 - 30 days – 47,094.00
 - 90 days – 30.00
- 20678 Tuition Fund – 758,447.00
- Accounts receivable – 122,862.00
- Revenue Comparison
 - Tuition – 2017 – 38,497.74, 2016 – 23,829.22
- Special Funds Summary – The Special Funds Summary report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.
- Expenditure Report – The Expenditure report was submitted to the Commissioners for review.

Personnel Issues

- Instructor John Buchanan is currently suspended due to improper remarks made during training.
- Instructor Bruce Harmon has been suspended.

Staff and Office Staff Meeting Minutes

Staff and office staff meeting minutes were submitted for Commission review.

Scheduled Activities

Director Newnam will be out of the state from November 22nd and December 20th – 29th.

REPORT OF BLS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

1. An abstract regarding the characteristics of DE EMS refusals has been accepted for presentation at the January 2018 annual NAEMSP conference. Over 155,000 EMS encounters from 2016 were reviewed and 8% resulted in refusal of service. 36% of refusals were diabetic-related complaints, and 29% of refusals were MVCs. Men refused more often than women, and highest refusal season was Summer. Age greater than or equal to 65 showed the lowest rate of refusal. **No updates.**

2. Narcan program-I previously released a memo to all BLS agencies regarding proper naloxone administration during our continued opiate overuse epidemic. There had been reports circulating regarding BLS administering 2mg of naloxone to patients in cardiac arrest without first initiating proper CPR. The goals of this memo were to stress managing ABCs first and administer naloxone per protocol when ABCs are being managed appropriately. Additionally naloxone should be administered as 1 mg dose per administration by BLS. Although some of the more potent opiate combinations may require additional doses of naloxone for successful reversal of respiratory depression, no single dose should be higher than 1 mg for BLS. The higher dosing of naloxone can pose multiple risks to both patients and EMS providers. I have not received any recent concerns regarding the timing of narcan administration by BLS providers. Claymont Fire Company will now carry Narcan. Unfortunately, large number of opioid overdoses continue to take place. Some EMS Supervisors have stated that they did not receive the memo, so it has been redistributed in November, 2017.
3. There remains active interest in an alternative to the increased cost of Epipens for participating BLS agencies. There are now FDA approved epinephrine autoinjectors with the same dosing (0.3mg and 0.15mg for junior) available through Southeastern Medical. **No updates**
4. ED trauma designation: NCC Wilmington ED has been granted provisional level 3 trauma center status effective October 5, 2016. CDC guidelines for field triage of injured patients and DE protocols should be followed when determining most appropriate destination for trauma victims. Online medical control should be contacted for appropriate ED preparation. **No updates**
5. Divert memo-I am also releasing a memo to all BLS agencies regarding a guidance "script" approved by OEMS for use by EMS throughout Delaware when a patient requests transport to an ED on divert. The goal of this message is to describe the concept of divert status to patients requesting transport to an emergency department on divert using clear and concise language in a consistent fashion throughout the State. **No updates**
6. EMS response to MAUs and Physician office document. This document is being distributed to MAUs and offices throughout the State as of February. The document contains several definitions and aims to establish and describe a statewide policy and procedures when patients are being transported from MAUs or outpatient offices. **No update**

7. There is no way to determine what the influenza season will look like, but it looks as though we will experience a robust flu season. Dr. Matthews advocates for all of the providers to get their flu shots and continue to use surveillance for any influenza like illnesses. We want to protect both providers and patients. As of November, Delaware is listed as sporadic activity. Dr. Matthews requested that providers report influenza symptoms in the DEMERS reports to record needed information.
8. Dr. Matthews acknowledged the Commission Investigator for the tremendous amount of work that he does behind the scenes each month. He's done an outstanding job with the investigations he is involved with and that is a help for Dr. Matthews for which he is grateful. He obtains well documented information and interviews are clearly summarized for Dr. Matthews, which in turn makes investigations and review run smoothly and professionally.

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATOR/COMPLIANCE OFFICER

17 Annual Ambulance Unit Inspections

0 New Unit Inspections

12 Complaints Received

7 Arrest Notifications were received.

0 Self Report

2016 – 1 Open Cases

2017 – 15 Open Cases

Investigator Truax reviewed and requested closure for Case No. 1709. This was a DUI case that plead to reckless driving. After a thorough review of this matter by the Department of Justice, it was determined that the case be dismissed for prosecutorial discretion. It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to close case No. 1709 by the recommendation of Investigator Truax. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

REGULAR BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

Case No. 1717 Hearing

The Commission held a disciplinary hearing regarding Case No. 1717, EMT Gennarino A. Johnson. Testimony was heard by Mr. Johnson and State witness. After deliberation, it was moved by Commissioner Roberts, seconded by Commissioner Truitt to suspend Gennarino A. Johnson for one year and for the suspension to run in conjunction with the state court issued probation. When Mr. Johnson's suspension has expired, he is required to complete and pass an EMT Refresher course in Delaware to obtain a Delaware EMT certification.

Case No. 1717 Hearing cont.

Motion carried by a roll call vote.

Commissioner Dicristofaro -	No
Commissioner Truitt -	Yes
Commissioner Sharp -	No
Vice Chairman Marvel -	Yes
Commissioner Roberts -	Yes
Commissioner Walius -	Yes
Chairman Robinson -	Yes

Bowers Fire Company – Scratch Rate Corrective Action Plan

Bowers Fire Company was asked to present a corrective action plan to address the concerns of a high scratch rate in the past quarter. Past President Willie Trowbridge represented and spoke on behalf of Bowers Fire Company. President Brian Jackson was also in attendance as a representative of the company. Mr. Trowbridge presented the company plan to improve the scratch rate in the district. The Commission thanked him for the presentation and were pleased with the corrective action plan in place.

Case No. 1718 – Emergency Suspension

Deputy Attorney General Davis presented the State Complaint concerning the arrest notification of EMT Brennon A. Fountain. Mr. Fountain was arrested on September 4, 2017 for a 3rd DUI, a felony, in violation of 21 Del. C. §4177A(a)(3). He was then charged on October 11, 2017 in the Superior Court of Sussex County. Mr. Fountain did not self-report the arrest or charge to the Fire Prevention Commission. As well as violating Part 710, Section 14.4.1.6 of the Delaware State Fire Prevention Regulations in that he has engaged in unprofessional conduct as defined by Section 14.4.2. Specifically in that, by operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, he engaged in conduct likely to harm the public. The State is requested a temporary suspension of his EMT certification until a hearing is scheduled and the complaint is resolved. It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, seconded by Vice Chairman Marvel to approve the temporary suspension. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Regulation Update

Deputy Attorney General Davis presented an update to Regulation 710. A partial update was reviewed and a review of the entire Part 710 will be presented in December. The presentation included an EMT Certification being required to have a current NREMT Card and making the Delaware and National Registry certifications to run concurrent. It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, seconded by Vice Chairman Marvel to accept the proposed update as presented. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

GENERAL INFORMATION

No report at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

No report at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

No report at this time.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chairman Ron Marvel

Vice Chairman Marvel reported that he attended the Monthly Fire Prevention Commission Meeting, Seaford Fire Company Meeting, Sussex Officers Meeting, Budget Meeting, Kent County Meeting, Sussex Chief's Meeting, Sussex Tech Rescue Meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

December 19, 2017 – 9:00 AM
Commission Chamber
Delaware Fire Service Center
1463 Chestnut Grove Road
Dover, DE 19904

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Dicristofaro, and seconded by Commissioner Truitt that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry R. Lambertson

Sherry R. Lambertson
Executive Specialist

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